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November 14, 2000

Office of General Counsel Federal Election Commission 999 E Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20463

3 24 PM '00

Sent by Certified Mail, Return Receipt 7000 0520 0018 3472 7109

Re: Complaint for distributing Presidential Bumper sticker by general mailing to voters

Respondent:

Conrad Lee, Candidate 4409 138<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE. Bellevue, WA 98006

w/3 copies

Dear Sirs,

I received the attached bumper sticker on or about September 9, 2000 by bulk mail from the Committee to Elect Conrad Lee along with a fundraising letter. The Bumper sticker gave the impression that Conrad Lee was endorsed by the Bush Campaign and vice versa. It also allowed Conrad Lee, District Co Chair for the George Bush campaign to circumvent Federal Campaign laws by contributing to the campaign of George Bush in violation of the laws governing this activity. Conrad Lee should be held to a stricter interpretation of the law because of his position in the Bush campaign. This is neither a republican or democrat issue.

We estimate that the Committee to Elect Conrad Lee printed and mailed to +30,000 households in the Bellevue area covering the 41<sup>st</sup> State legislative district. I had many witness' call and ask if this was truthful and legal. I received a letter from the republican party(enclosed) that if my campaign had done this, we would have risked legal problems. This action gave Conrad Lee an unfair advantage because of the short proximity to the primary election. This stole votes from other candidates in the race because Conrad Lee distributed this collateral material by mass mailing in addition to avoiding the contribution to the presidential election during the primary moratorium period.

I contacted the Bush campaign, and they denied giving any authorization to the Conrad Lee Committee. But they stopped short of doing anything else, other than confiding to me that they did not authorize it. They refused to document their disapproval so that the electorate could be informed that this was an unlawful contribution or unauthorized collateral material from the Bush campaign.

This cost my campaign the election and negated the campaign that I ran according to the rules. This gave an unfair advantage to Conrad Lee, a reward for breaking the law. It cost my campaign the election and deprived my campaign of equality in the race because of this unfair advantage taken by Conrad Lee.

Many people in the area, called me to ask if this was authorized when they received it via bulk mail.

I certify the aforementioned statements are true and accurate, under penalties of perjury.

Bryan Griggs, Complainant P.O. Box 1062

Renton, WA 98057

Notarized:

This document was signed and sworn to before me by November 15, 2000

My commission expires on: 2/14/01

Date:

## **MEMORANDUM**

TO:

**BUSH-CHENEY 2000 STRATEGY DIVISION** 

**BUSH-CHENEY 2000 POLITICAL DIVISION**.

FROM:

**BUSH-CHENEY 2000 LEGAL DIVISION** 

DATE:

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2000** 

RE:

FEC COATTAIL EXEMPTION — OPPORTUNITY FOR DOWN BALLOT CANDIDATES TO PROMOTE BUSH-CHENEY TICKET

The federal election laws permit down ballot state and federal candidates to promote the Bush-Cheney ticket on their collateral campaign materials, provided the down ticket collateral materials are distributed by volunteers, professional modes of communication (such as billboards or direct mail) are not used, and, in the case of non-federal candidates, federally clean funds are used to pay for the Bush-Cheney portion of the materials. When down ballot candidates take advantage of this exemption, the candidates' campaign committees can pay to produce the collateral materials without Bush-Cheney having to pay anything.

This exemption extends to a wide variety of collateral materials, including pins, bumper stickers, placards, brochures, posters and yard signs. The collateral materials can not only reference Governor Bush and Secretary Cheney, they also can contain electioneering messages and slogans ("Vote for Bush" etc.), the Bush-Cheney campaign insignia, and other information about the Bush-Cheney campaign (including the Bush-Cheney campaign web site). The only content requirements are that the down ballot candidate must be mentioned on the collateral materials and the down ballot candidate name and information must be at least the same size as that of Bush-Cheney.

This is an excellent opportunity for our down ballot campaign allies to spend money promoting Governor Bush and Secretary Cheney without the campaign having to pay for it. As always, if you have any questions, do not hesitate to contact the Bush-Cheney 2000 Legal Division at x4616.

## George W. FOR WHITE HOUSE

## FOR STATE HOUSE

Paid for by: Committee to Elect Conrad Lee (R) 4409 138th Avenue SE, Bellevue, WA 98006